

Nick Reinecker

SB449

Proponent

Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources

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Chairman: Senator Dan Kerschen

Every year the Kansas Legislature usually crafts a bill that is the state controlled substances act. Although this is usually a uniform act that mirrors federal proclivities, it is important to note that one of the reasons we have a state controlled substances act is to acknowledge that we, as a state, concur with the federal decisions and also agree to enforce them, while allowing discretionary practices to law enforcement and prosecutorial authority. No state prohibition, no state or local enforcement. When states exert 10<sup>th</sup> amendment rights, federal authorities may still enforce, discretionally, those laws the state does not, but in the case of cannabis, it is not practical. Bribery maybe, in the form of denied federal funding for non-compliance, but not enforcement.

Cannabis is a schedule 1 substance on the federal controlled substances act. We all are beginning to realize the folly of this action, starting with the manipulation of definitions that utilize a slang term to label a plant, which after different types of growing conditions are put into operation, enhances the level of thc, which in turn, changes the definition. This is ridiculous. Not to mention the fact that the cannabidiol train has left the station; hemp, cannabis, marijuana, whatever one may call it, this "toothpaste" is not going back in the tube. Cannabis, to my knowledge, contains tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). Products from cannabis may or may not contain tetrahydrocannabinols. If the legislative intent is to allow farmers ie. citizens, to cultivate cannabis, then THC should not be the issue. The true issue is whether cannabis should be a controlled substance, at all. I also cook for a living. I use ingredients to make products. The actions of the Kansas legislature regarding cannabis is creating a closed-loop system between the legislature, local and state law enforcement and retail sellers of cannabis derived products, tetrahydrocannabinols or not. This is out of step with our agreed upon rules and vision outlined in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. Picking winners and losers in an industry and denying the ability of self-reliance is unbecoming a representative government.

I may not be able to do anything about it as a citizen, ie. Initiate a constitutional amendment (that I believe would pass at any level of THC), but I do believe the time has come to repeal this prohibition, once and for all, which is hurting the Kansas economy, the Kansas farmer, those who could benefit from CBD and THC and all the other pressing issues of criminal justice, behavioral health, personal autonomy and government scope of practice, including market manipulation and the overregulation of a non-lethal botanical.

Thank You

Nick Reinecker